

PETER

DRAWER 1A

CENTRAL KENTUCKY

71.2009.085.05561

Hanks Family

Central Kentucky

Peter Hanks

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

6

OAKLAND CITY COLLEGE

OAKLAND CITY, INDIANA

OFFICE OF DEAN
R. E. SIMMS

OCTOBER
Sixteenth
1934

Dr. Louis Warren
% Lincoln Insurance Company
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

Through your Lincoln records I wonder if you can line up this family of Peter Hanks? Just how would this Hanks family be related to Nancy Hanks?

Appreciating any help you might give, I am

Sincerely,



R. E. Simms

RES:LP

Peter Hanks

William = Poly

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Peter (1794- 1859) | Ruth (1797- 1842) | Nicholas 1799 | Matilda 1801 | Elizabeth (1802-?) | Malinda (1804-?) | James Stewart=Eliza Spore (1806-) |
| <i>Stephen Fisher</i> Jan 8, 1818 | | | <i>John Mayhall</i> Aug 24, 1820 | <i>Timothy Mayhall</i> Dec 14, 1822 | | <i>Rosannah McMiller</i> Oct 16, 1827 |
| <i>Elizabeth Ramsey</i> Oct 30, 1813 | | | | <i>offshoot daughter</i> | | |

NOTE: Some think William Hanks might have been a cousin of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. The dates would make it possible for him to have been an Uncle. Might not Peter Hanks (1742) have been a common ancestor?

These Hanks came from Montgomery County, Kentucky.

Sent by R. E. Simms
Oakland City College.

Peter

William - Polly

Gibson

Clinton County

October 19, 1934

Mr. R. E. Simms, Dean
Oakland City College
Oakland City, Ind.

My dear Mr. Simms:

I wish I might help you in identifying the Hanks family of which you wrote with the Hanks family from which Lincoln's mother descended.

While I do not think there is much doubt but what there is a common ancestral origin, yet we are at present unable to definitely locate the family from which the mother of Lincoln came.

It appears that the Peter Hanks family originated in Maryland and moved into Virginia later on and possibly North Carolina, then into Montgomery County, Kentucky, and later on into Gibson County, Indiana.

I am wondering if the maiden name of William's wife, Poly, is known, and whether or not any further information is known about the wife of Peter Hanks.

We have here a very large collection of Hanks manuscripts and are adding to it year by year with the hope that some date we can publish a history of the Hanks family.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:EB

Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation

Peter Hanks

Sent from Bellefontaine

Dec 29/32

I

Dear Mr Jones; (Historian): —

When Degraff observed her Centennial, you wrote the Degraff Journal Editor and others a letter concerning the parentage of Nancy Hanks, as we in Degraff have people who have claims of being "cousins of Abe Lincoln." (Know a lot of them)

I had gotten up some material on it, and as I thought Miss Fern Burdette might help in our "pioneer writing" I gave her the "assignment" — but our Editor (then, Paul Cooper) discouraged the whole affair, saying "we can't prove any thing" — and he didn't want to get in any wrangle with historians — and so the article was "on the shelf" and Miss Burdette refused to write it.

But now Mr Jones, we have a new Editor (Mr. Charles Childers) who is a fine fellow — and "he gives me the "green light" to write it all up — and say we can't prove any thing — but just the same it's nice to know what is claimed etc — so in Feb — I will write up "The Lincoln Cousins of Degraff" in a take it or leave it spirit.

Your letter was also handed to me to read — and I preserved it. You state that Dr. Lewis a Warren in his "Lincoln Kinmen" believes that the mother of ^(son of Joseph) Nancy Hanks was Lucy Shipley — Hanks wife of James Hanks who left record of his will Jan 8 1793 — and that he believed that the story of Nancy Hanks being an illegitimate child was "another London myth" etc — and this encourages me to tell you of our "Peter Hanks of Degraff. Yes it does!"

All we know is that Peter Hanks was born in Pa. — and had for wife the aunt of President Hayes. It is said that ~~he was~~ a first cousin of Abraham Lincoln —

(Please excuse a blot here)
and bore a striking resemblance in looks and manners to him — and in his youthful days split many a rail with him. — so Peter Hanks must have been with his cousin Abe in ~~the~~ in his young days

(over)

to my delight, she opened the Family album - and showed me three. - two of whom I have never seen in any history. They are of Mrs Lincoln (a side view, bust, in fancy dress - and a bandeau on her hair. She is smiling (It is not the one with roses in her hair) - ~~but~~ a older picture) - and the president (he is rather young, beard close cut, his expression not so worried, but ^{pleasantly} serious. Its a fine picture. Its on the back it was taken by a N. York Studio which had a "branch" in Paris) The third picture is of Tad looking over his father's desk - and which is familiar to to all.

My nephew (who teaches in a Chicago Seminary) directs me to write to the "Chicago Historical Society" in regard to the other two pictures - which I have done (We think they are valuable etc) Do you think so?

Now Mr Jones - I am writing you all this - to ask you - do you know if James Hanks had a ~~daughter~~ ^{son} who had a son Peter who was born in Pa and had a "Hayes" for a wife and settled near De Graff Ohio, Hogan Co in the early days? I cant give the year.

Maybe you dont - but would this Dr. Horio a warren of Hot Wayne Ind know, Is he still living - and could you give me his address? - or better yet - if you know him, could you forward my letter to him, and have him write me? Could there be such a thing that "what little" we know here ^{could} help dispel the Herndon myth? I feel sure that the daughter of Peter Hanks, Aunt Jane Halpin, would most certainly ^{have} given such a falsity a "piece of her mind!!" (Selah!). Write me what you think -

and Thanks in advance. Yours Sincerely -
 (send reply to -)
 Miss Edna M. Ross
 Quincy Ohio
 RR1.7
 (I will come to my home address. Quincy is near De Graff)
 (Would you like a copy of my article when published?)
 (Excuse bad photo writing due to too much "Santitas" etc)

(read note on other side)

P.S. Mr Jones, what I'm asking you -
(for fear you are confused by my ~~bad~~ bad
blots) is, - would anyone know
if Nancy Hanks had a brother
who had a son Peter. Since Peter
was born in Pa. and got his wife in
Pa (we know that ^{and that} she was a Hayes) - this supposed
brother lived in Pa. Although Peter Hanks
(if he split rails with his cousin Abe) must
have been with the Hanks sometime in
his young life. This Edwin Hanks who
gave this information to the Historian of
"History of Maam Valley" was a thoroughly
reliable man of integrity of character - and
so was Aunt Jane Hahn - and while all
are dead - I am sure they would not hand
out information that wasn't so or rely on
mystic family traditions - just to claim
relationship to Lincoln.

Now - I hope I have made myself clear.
I confess I was confused in my reckoning, and
later discovered it - hence the "blots" (and
I didn't feel like re-writing it)

yours -

Edna Ross.

HANKS

January 12, 1953

Miss Edna M. Ross
R. R. #1
Quincy, Ohio

My dear Miss Ross:

You will please find attached to this letter a little ^{compilation} ~~edition~~ of various families which claim to have been related to the Lincolns.

I think that it is quite likely that back early in ~~in~~ ^{the} history in America forebearers of Lincoln's mother and your forebearers were related. We do not know of any place to point you to allow you to have the exact relationship and there is no book which would help you very much in the matter. If you ever find an opportunity to come to Fort Wayne we could lay lots of short material before you for you to work over but we of course do not have time ourselves to follow through genealogy records. We trust however the little bulletin enclosed will help you in your quest.

Very truly yours,

LAW:jaf
Dr. Louis A. Warren
Enc.

Director

CHARLES A. JONES
139 TIBET ROAD
COLUMBUS, OHIO

January 6, 1953

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren :

Happy New Year greetings.

I suppose at some time I answered a query from Edna M. Ross, RR 1, Quincy, Ohio, but do not recall anything about it. Apparently what she wishes to know now is:

Did Nancy Hanks, Lincoln's mother, have a brother who had a son named Peter ?

Apparently Miss Ross wishes to write-up for the DeGraff, Ohio, paper a local story based on statements of residents there that they were cousins of Lincoln.

Since you have given much to this research will you kindly write her what you think about the contention. I am writing her that I have sent her letter to you as she suggested.

With appreciation and esteem,

Sincerely yours,


C.A. Jones

Would appreciate having a carbon of what you write Miss Rose

January 12, 1953

Mr. Charles A. Jones
139 Tibet Road
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Mr. Jones:

About all we could do for Miss Ross with respect to her Hanks connection was to send her a copy of Lincoln Lore No. 692. You might look this over but I do not think it would be of any great assistance to her. There is no question in my mind but what the Pennsylvania Hanks were related to the Virginia Hanks but just how I cannot say.

Very truly yours,

LAW:jaf
Dr. Louis A. Warren
Enc.

Director

Current file was originally marked :

PETER

Peter Absalom, Samuel William Ruth - Marshall - Trumbull
Maryland Mt. Sterling, Ky. - Gibson Co Indiana

DRAWER 1A CHILDREN OF JOSEPH HANKS SR.

